

107TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 796

To amend the Safe Drinking Water Act to ensure that drinking water consumers are informed about the risks posed by arsenic in drinking water.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 26, 2001

Mrs. BOXER (for herself, Mr. REID, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mrs. CLINTON, Mr. CORZINE, Mr. KENNEDY, and Mr. WELLSTONE) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works

A BILL

To amend the Safe Drinking Water Act to ensure that drinking water consumers are informed about the risks posed by arsenic in drinking water.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Community Right-to-
5 Know Arsenic Risk Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. NOTICE CONCERNING RISKS POSED BY ARSENIC IN**
 2 **DRINKING WATER.**

3 Part F of the Safe Drinking Water Act (42 U.S.C.
 4 300j–21 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the fol-
 5 lowing:

6 **“SEC. 1466. NOTICE CONCERNING RISKS POSED BY AR-**
 7 **SENIC IN DRINKING WATER.**

8 “(a) IN GENERAL.—A consumer confidence report
 9 prepared by a community water system under section
 10 141.154 of title 40, Code of Federal Regulations (or a suc-
 11 cessor regulation), shall include a short educational state-
 12 ment concerning arsenic that—

13 “(1) uses language such as the following: ‘While
 14 your drinking water meets EPA’s standard for ar-
 15 senic, it does contain arsenic. EPA’s standard is
 16 based not only on the possible health effects of ar-
 17 senic, but also on the costs of removing arsenic from
 18 drinking water. EPA continues to research the
 19 health effects of arsenic ingestion, which is a mineral
 20 known to cause cancer in humans at high concentra-
 21 tions and is linked to other health effects such as
 22 skin damage and circulatory problems.’; or

23 “(2) uses substantially similar language devel-
 24 oped by the community water system in consultation
 25 with the State agency having jurisdiction over safe
 26 drinking water matters.

1 “(b) APPLICABILITY.—Subsection (a) applies to any
2 community water system that—

3 “(1) is required to prepare and deliver con-
4 sumer confidence reports under subpart O of title
5 40, Code of Federal Regulations (or a successor reg-
6 ulation); and

7 “(2)(A) with respect to a report required to be
8 delivered under that subpart not later than July 1,
9 2001, detects arsenic in the drinking water provided
10 by the community water system at a level that is
11 above 0.025 milligrams per liter but below the max-
12 imum contaminant level; and

13 “(B) with respect to a report required to be de-
14 livered under that subpart after July 1, 2001, de-
15 tects arsenic in the drinking water provided by the
16 community water system at a level that is above
17 0.005 milligrams per liter but that is equal to or
18 below the maximum contaminant level.”.

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